Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2010-69

Fluopicolide

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Under the authority of *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) is proposing to establish maximum residue limits (MRLs) for fluopicolide on tuberous and corm vegetables, except potatoes (Crop Subgroup 1D), fruiting vegetables (Crop Group 8-09), cucurbit vegetables (Crop Group 9), grapes, head lettuce, leaf lettuce and raisins to permit the import and sale of foods containing such residues.

Fluopicolide is a fungicide not currently registered for use in Canada.

The PMRA has determined the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the imported food commodities when fluopicolide is used according to label directions in the exporting country. The Agency has also determined that such residues will not be a concern to human health and is proposing to legally establish corresponding import MRLs. An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

Details regarding the import MRLs can be found in the corresponding Evaluation Report that is available in the Pesticides and Pest Management section Health Canada's website, under Public Registry, Pesticide Product Information Database.[1]

Consultation on the proposed import MRLs for fluopicolide is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps, the last section of this document).

To comply with Canada's international trade obligations, consultation on the proposed MRLs is also being conducted internationally by notifying the World Trade Organization, as coordinated by the Standards Council of Canada.

The proposed MRLs for fluopicolide in Canada in or on food are as follows.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limits for Fluopicolide

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)	Food Commodity
Fluopicolide	2,6-dichloro-*N*-[[3-chloro-5-(trifluoromethyl)-2-pyridinyl]methyl] benzamide	16	Head lettuce, leaf lettuce
		4.1	Raisins
		1.6	Fruiting vegetables (Crop Group 8-09)
		1.4	Grapes
		0.5	Cucurbit vegetables (Crop Group 9)
		0.02	Tuberous and corm vegetables, except potatoes (Crop Subgroup 1D)

[1] The relevant report can be accessed by selecting the Applications/New/Historical and opening the Evaluation Report found under Application Number 2007-4677.

MRLs are proposed for each commodity included in the listed crop groupings in accordance with the Residue Chemistry Crop Groups webpage in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

A complete list of all MRLs established in Canada can be found on the Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides webpage in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

International Situation and Trade Implications

With the exception of the commodities indentified in Table 2, the proposed MRLs for fluopicolide in Canada are the same as corresponding tolerances established in the United States (tolerances are listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide). Currently, Codex Alimentarius MRLs[2] have not been established for fluopicolide on any commodity. A listing of all established Codex MRLs is available on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Residues in Food website.

Table 2 Comparison of Canadian MRLs and American Tolerances (where different)

Food Commodity	Canadian MRL (ppm)	American Tolerance (ppm)
Head lettuce, leaf lettuce	16	25*
Raisins	4.1	6.0
Grapes	1.4	2.0

* The corresponding tolerance is established for the crop group "Vegetable, leafy, except Brassica, group 4".

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed import MRLs for fluopicolide up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see the contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed import MRLs for fluopicolide and posting a corresponding Established Maximum Residue Limit document in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

[2] The Codex Alimentarius Commission is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.